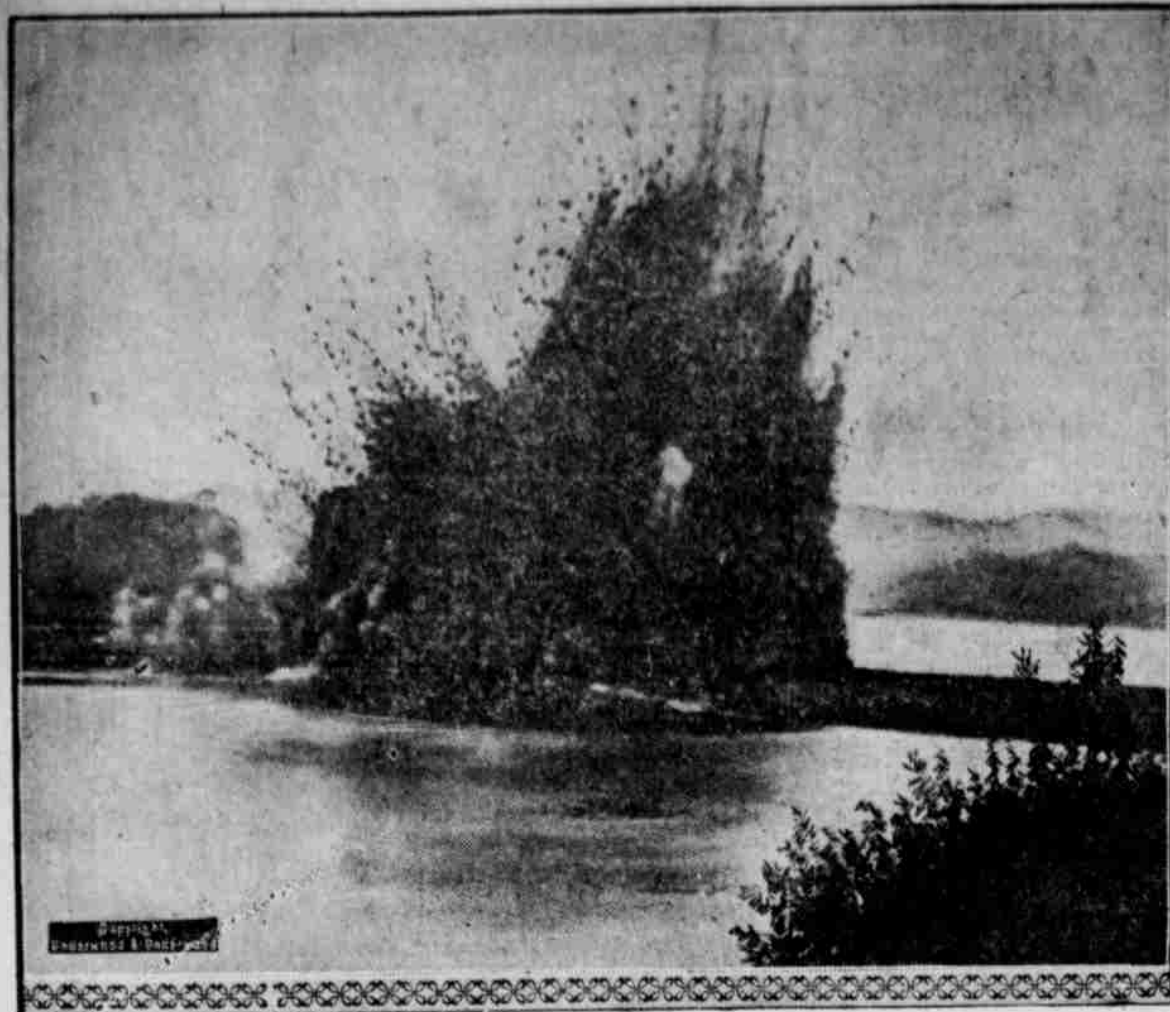
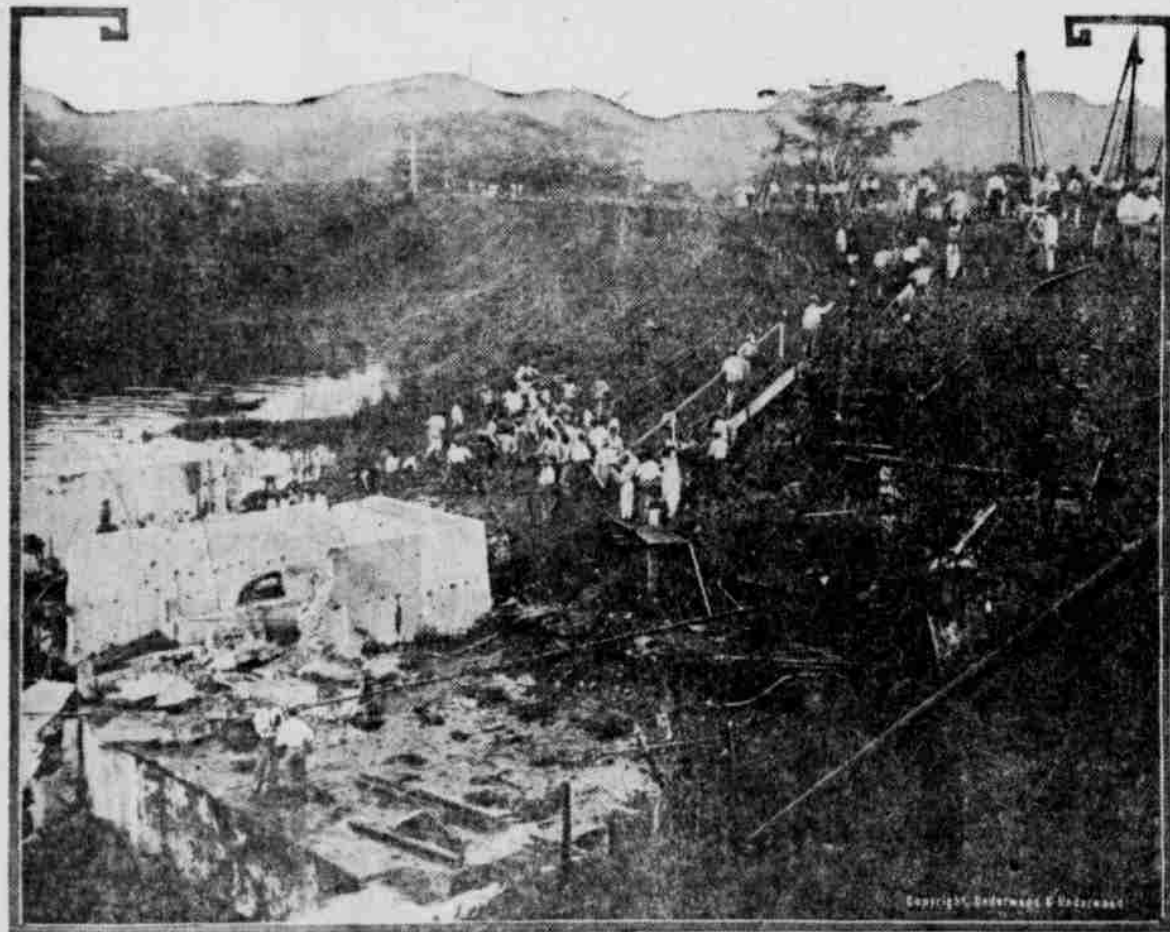


EXPLOSION THAT DESTROYED GAMBOA DIKE



When President Wilson pressed a button in the White House 1,277 great charges of dynamite were exploded in the Panama Canal Zone and the Gamboa Dike was blown to pieces. The muffled roar of the explosion was echoed by the cheers of thousands of spectators and instantly the cables flashed to all parts of the world the news that this climax in the building of the wonderful canal had been reached and passed. No ceremonies attended the event, but the heart of every American beat high with pride in the achievement of his countrymen. The explosion was a "clean" one, lifting out of the dike a section sixty feet wide. Through this gap rushed the waters of Gatun lake, which at the time were six feet above the level of the water which had been let into the cut through pipes to act as a cushion for the explosion.

LETTING THE FIRST WATER INTO CULEBRA CUT



Before the blowing up of the Gamboa Dike a certain amount of water was let into the Culebra Cut through pipes in the dike, in order to form a cushion for the great explosion.

GOVERNOR AND MRS. METCALF SEE EXPLOSION



Among those who witnessed the dynamiting of the Gamboa Dike were Governor Metcalf of the Canal Zone and his wife.

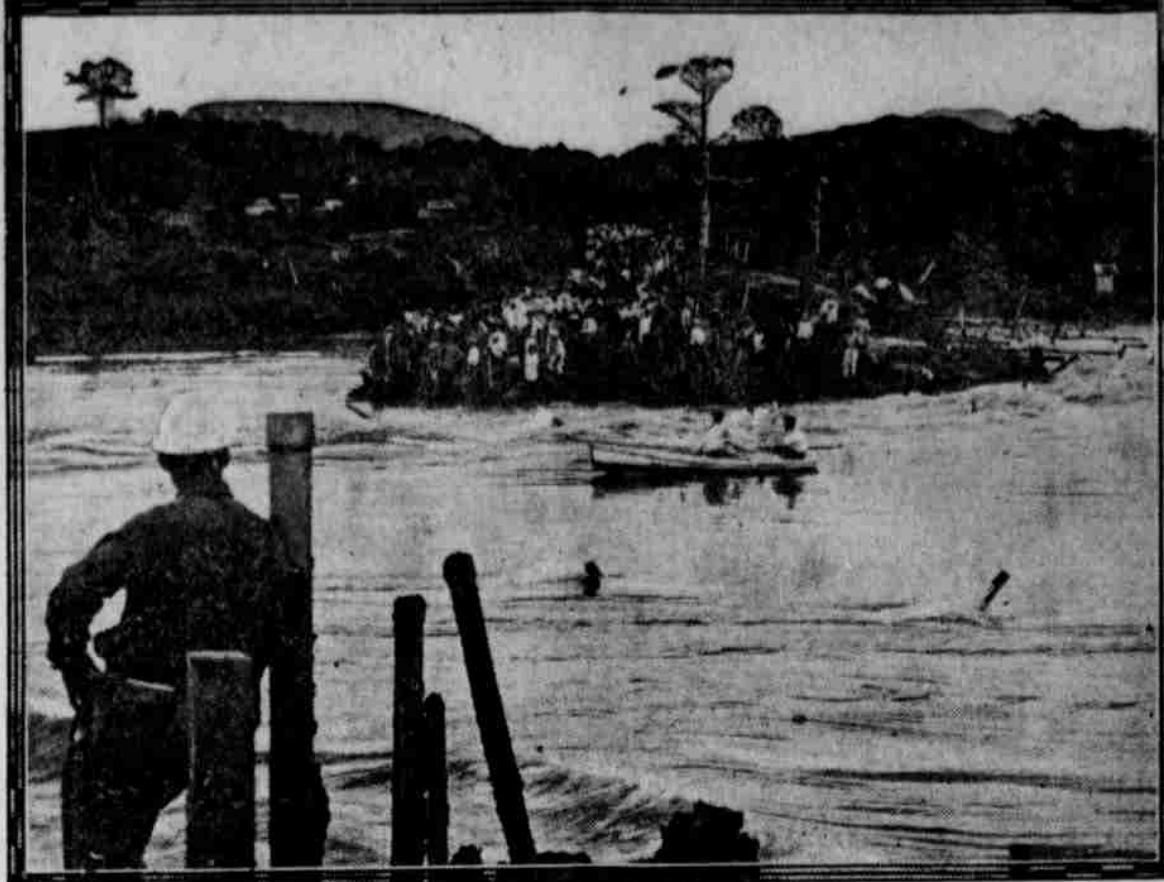
COL. WILLIAM C. GORGAS



Colonel Gorgas, who, as head of the department of sanitation in the Canal Zone, really made possible the building of the canal, has just gone to South Africa to undertake the task of bettering the sanitary conditions of the hundreds of thousands of miners employed there.

If it ain't absolutely necessary then most of their equis is wrong.

FIRST BOAT THROUGH THE OPENING IN GAMBOA DIKE



The first boat to enter Culebra Cut from Gatun Lake after the Gamboa Dike was blown up was a native canoe manned by two Americans, who paddled their light craft through the new channel almost immediately after the explosion.

FLOATING ISLANDS IN GATUN LAKE



These floating islands are frequent in Gatun Lake and are pushed out of the Panama Canal channel by a steam launch, which may be seen in the photograph.

COL. GEORGE W. GOETHALS.



Colonel Goethals, chairman and chief engineer of the isthmian canal commission, who has made himself forever famous as the builder of the Panama canal.

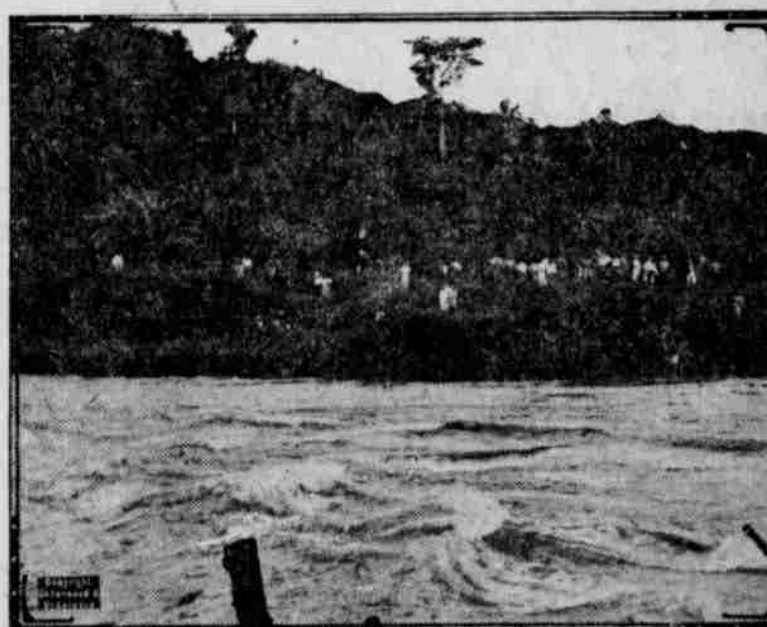
Hot Day Discipline.

"Well, you can have the job. But mind you I want a man that's live, a hustler—one who works just for the pleasure of working."
"I see. I'm the man. You'll never catch me watching the clock, sir."
"Ah, I'm glad you reminded me. And I don't want to catch you hopping up every half hour or so to take a look at the thermometer.—St. Louis Republic."

It Might Come True.

"You've been out of work for a long time, you say?"
"Yes, lady. I'm a very unfortunate person. Why, just the other night, ma'am, I dreamed that if I went to a certain place I'd get a job shovelin'."
"And did you go?"
"No, ma'am. I didn't care to chance it."

RUSH OF WATERS INTO CULEBRA CUT



Like a mountain torrent the waters of Gatun Lake poured into Culebra Cut through the sixty-foot gap in Gamboa Dike made by the explosion of 1,600 pounds of dynamite. At Gold Hill the flood was partially dammed by the Cucaracha slide and within an hour and a half the cut was filled to lake level.

WATER POURING THROUGH GAMBOA DIKE



Shrieking whistles and cheering crowds greeted the first rush of water through the huge rent in the Gamboa Dike when that last obstruction in the Panama Canal was blown up with dynamite. Well in front of the throng of spectators stood Colonel Goethals, silent, but visibly gratified at the moment which marked the virtual completion of his mighty task.